Examiner's amendment

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A peritoneal dialysis solution including bicarbonate at a level of less than or equal to 30 mM/L, having a carbon dioxide partial pressure that is less than 60 mmHg and including ~~at least one~~ a weak acid at a level of between approximately 15 mEq/L and approximately 20 mEq/L selected from the group consisting of: lactate; citrate; isocitrate; cis-aconitase; α-ketoglutarate; succinate; fumarate; malate; and oxaloacetate.

Claim 2 (original): The peritoneal dialysis solution of Claim 1 wherein bicarbonate is present in the solution at 25 mM/L.

Claim 3 (original): The peritoneal dialysis solution of Claim 1 wherein the carbon dioxide partial pressure of the solution is approximately the same as the carbon dioxide partial pressure of blood.

Claim 4 (original): The peritoneal dialysis solution of Claim 1 wherein the solution has a pH of approximately 7.0 to about 7.4.

Claim 5 (original): The peritoneal dialysis solution of Claim 1 wherein the weak acids have a pKa of < 5.0.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A peritoneal dialysis solution comprising:

Dextrose (hydrous) (g/dl)	1.5-4.25
Sodium (mEq/L)	100-140
Chloride (mEq/L)	70-110
Calcium (mEq/L)	0.0-4.0
Magnesium (mEq/L)	0.0-4.0
Bicarbonate (mEq/L)	20.0-30.0
Weak acid (mEq/L)	10.0-20.0

wherein the weak acid is ~~at least one acid~~ chosen from the group consisting of: lactate; citrate; isocitrate; cis-aconitase; α-ketoglutarate; succinate; fumarate; malate; and oxaloacetate, the solution having a carbon dioxide partial pressure that is less than 60 mmHg.

Claim 7 (original): The peritoneal dialysis solution of Claim 6 wherein the solution has a pH of approximately 7.0 to about 7.4.

Claim 8 (original): The peritoneal dialysis solution of Claim 6 wherein the weak acids have a pKa of < 5.0.

Claim 9 (original): The peritoneal dialysis solution of Claim 6 wherein the carbon dioxide partial pressure of the solution is approximately the same as the carbon dioxide partial pressure of normal blood.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A peritoneal dialysis solution comprising:

Dextrose (hydrous) (g/dl)	1.5-4.25
Sodium (mEq/L)	100-140
Chloride (mEq/L)	70-110
Calcium (mEq/L)	0.0-4.0
Magnesium (mEq/L)	0.0-4.0
Bicarbonate (mEq/L)	20.0-30.0
Weak acid (mEq/L)	10.0-20.0

wherein the weak acid is ~~at least one acid~~ chosen from the group consisting of: lactate; citrate; isocitrate; cis-aconitase; α-ketoglutarate; succinate; fumarate; malate; and oxaloacetate, and the solution has a carbon dioxide partial pressure that is substantially similar to the carbon dioxide partial pressure of a normal subject's blood and the solution has a pH of approximately 7.0 to about 7.4.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method for correcting metabolic acidosis in a dialysis patient suffering or likely to suffer from same comprising the step of:

administering to a patient a peritoneal dialysis solution that has a bicarbonate level and carbon dioxide partial pressure that are substantially similar to that found in the ~~patient's~~ normal persons blood wherein the solution comprises:

Dextrose (hydrous) (g/dl)	1.5-4.25
Sodium (mEq/L)	100-140
Chloride (mEq/L)	70-110
Calcium (mEq/L)	0.0-4.0
Magnesium (mEq/L)	0.0-4.0
Bicarbonate (mEq/L)	20.0-30.0
Weak acid (mEq/L)	10.0-20.0

wherein the weak acid is ~~at least one acid~~ chosen from the group consisting of: lactate; citrate; isocitrate; cis-aconitase; α-ketoglutarate; succinate; fumarate; malate; and oxaloacetate

Claim 12 (original): The method of Claim 11 including the step of administering to the patient a weak acid that is present in the solution in an amount that offsets the daily hydrogen production of approximately 1 mEq/kg/day.

Claim 13 (original): The method of Claim 12 wherein the weak acids have a pKa of < 5.0.

Claim 14 (original): The method of Claim ~~10~~ 11 wherein the solution has a pH of approximately 7.0 to about 7.4.

Claim 15 (original): The method of Claim 11 wherein the solution does not include lactate.

Claim 16 (original): The method of Claim 12 wherein the weak acid is present in the solution at a level of approximately 10 to about 20 mEq/L.

to be normal biochemical intermediates of glucose metabolism. Preferably, the weak acids are chosen from the group consisting of: lactate; pyruvate; citrate; isocitrate; cis-aconitase; α-ketoglutarate; succinate; fumarate; malate; and oxaloacetate. These acids can be present either alone or in combination in the solution. Preferably, the weak acids are present at a level of approximately 10 to about 20 mEq/L. Preferably, the weak acid are present mainly as sodium salts. The weak acid is present in an amount that would offset the daily metabolic hydrogen production of approximately 1 mEq/kg/day.

In an embodiment, the peritoneal ..... does not include lactate.

Pursuant to the present invention, any osmotic agent can be used in the solution. For example, dextrose, maltodextrin, glycerol, polyglucose, polypeptides and amino acids can be used as the osmotic agent.

Preferably, the peritoneal dialysis solution, if it contains dextrose as an osmotic agent, has a general composition such as that set forth below:

Dextrose (hydrous) (g/dl)	1.5-4.25
Sodium (mEq/L)	100-140
Chloride (mEq/L)	70-110
Calcium (mEq/L)	0.0-4.0
Magnesium (mEq/L)	0.0-4.0
Bicarbonate (mEq/L)	20.0-30.0
Weak acid (mEq/L)	10.0-20.0
pH	7.0-7.4

Preferably, solutions containing an osmotic agent other than dextrose composition have the general composition:

Osmotic agent (~~mOsm~~ mM/L)	1-200
Sodium (mEq/L)	100-140
Chloride (mEq/L)	70-~~130~~ 110